A. Research Papers in Press/in Print (March-August 2008 -alphabetically by 1st author):


2. Ceylan-Isik AF, Ren J. Fixing the broken heart: problems and prospects in managing the cardiometabolic risk. *Advances in Gene, Molecular and Cell Therapy* (invited review).


B. Abstracts and Presentations (March-August 2008 -alphabetically by 1st author):


C. Manuscripts and Abstracts Submitted in March-August 2008:

Manuscripts:


Abstracts:

15. Zhao P, Dong F, Ren J. Leptin-Restored cardiomyocyte contractile function in obesity is obliterated by increased age. 2008 AHA Scientific Session.

D. Awarded Grants:

2. Li J: American Heart Association National SDG Program: Aging-associated alterations in heart stress signaling during ischemia/reperfusion. (PI), $308,000 (7/1/08-6/30/12)
3. Li J: American Heart Association Pacific Mountain Affiliate: Alterations in AMP-activated protein kinase signaling pathway during ischemia with aging. (PI), $132,000 (7/1/08-6/30/10). Relinquish due to overlap with AHA SDG.
4. Li J: NIH 1R03AG-028163: Alterations in heart stress signaling during ischemia with aging. (PI), $143,000 (4/1/08-3/30/10).
5. **Li J:** American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) A08007: Alterations in AMP-activated protein kinase signaling during ischemia with aging. (PI), $60,000 (7/1/08-6/30/2010).

6. **Li J:** NIH UW INBRE Pilot Grants: Aging-associated alterations in cardiac MIF-AMPK signaling during ischemia/reperfusion. $25,000.

7. **Ma H:** INBRE Young Investigator Development Grant (No. P20 RR16474): Fossil Fuel and Cardiac Health (P.I.) $5,000 (2008-2010).

8. **Ma H:** INBRE new investigator travel support to the National IDeA Symposium, August 6-8, 2008 in Washington DC.

9. **Turdi S:** The College of Health Science Research Grant. $1,100, May, 2008.

10. **Kyla Jones, Emily Byra:** Wyoming Space Grant Consortium Grants, study cardiac deconditioning. $5,000 (Faculty sponsor: Jun Ren).

E. **Pending Grants:**
2. **Roth D, Nunez N, Ren J.** NIH/NCRR: University of Wyoming Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) Program. Co-PI, $3,000,000.
3. **Li J.** ITHS pilot small grant: Macrophage Migration Inhibitory Factor in the Heart. (PI). $10,000.
5. **Wang, L. Q., and M. Du** (Co-PI). USDA-NRI. Microarray data analyses for genes crucial for adipogenesis. $100,000.

F. **Welcome New Members of C-CRAM:**
Welcome Jingying Wang (MCLS program Ph.D. student) joined Dr. Ji Li’s lab to pursue her Ph.D. degree during the following four years. Welcome Asli Ceylan Isik back to C-CRAM working in Dr. Ren’s and Dr. Nair’s labs.

This summer, we had six high school students who won the opportunity to join the SRAP (Summer Research Apprentice Program) working in C-CRAM for nearly two months. Curie Ahn and Ashley Wood worked at Dr. Nair’s lab to perform diabetes associated research. Zeke Perez came from Colorado, and Bethany Gunkel from South Dakota. Zeke evaluated the cardiac function and addressed the related mechanisms in type 1 diabetes under the direction of Peng Zhao, M.D, who will leave Laramie for China on 21st August. Bethany’s subject was to investigate the effect of high fat diet-induced pregnant-obese sheep on their fetus with the help of another Ph.D. student, Jingying Wang. Both Zeke and Bethany did good job and gave their presentations entitled “Macrophage Migration Inhibitory Factor and Type 1 Diabetes” and “The Cardiac Signaling Pathways during Over Nourished Obese Sheep Pregnancy and the Impact on Fetal Growth”, respectively, in the symposium to all the SRAP students and their parents at the end of the summer program.” Additionally, F. L. Leuvano and K. M. Brewer, who are from Denver, were trained for seven weeks in Dr. Du’s lab during the summer under the support of SRAP.

Welcome Garrett Poulos (3rd-year PharmD student) will join C-CRAM to pursue his research interest. Four new MCLS Ph.D. candidates, Hanying Zhang from Najing, and Yang Li from Beijing, Chao Tong from Chongqing, and Evgeniy Panzhinskiy from Russia will join C-CRAM to start their lab rotation in Dr. Li’s lab. Another new MCLS student, Wei Xu, will have her first rotation in Dr. Du’s and Dr. Zhu’s labs.

G. **Invited Speakers:**
♦ Ren J: Cardiac dysfunction in cardiometabolic syndrome, University of British Columbia Faculty of Pharmacy, Vancouver, Canada, March 2008.

♦ Li J: The Cellular Fuel Gauge-AMPK in the Heart, Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, MO, April, 2008.


♦ Li J: MKP-1 and AMPK: Targets for Inflammatory and Ischemic Heart Diseases, Shihezi University School of Pharmacy, Shihezi, July, 2008.


H. Congratulations on AHA Abstracts Accepted by 2008 AHA Scientific Session:

Congratulations on the following accepted Abstracts (3,000 out of 11,200) of C-CRAM for 2008 American Scientific Session at New Orleans, Louisiana, on Nov 8-12, 2008:
1. Turdi S, Yan X, Ren J. High-Fat-Diet induced cardiomyocyte dysfunction in AMPK-deficient mice. (Poster presentation on Nov. 11).

I. Other Research Activities of C-CRAM:

♦ Members from C-CRAM won the UW 2008 Indoor Soccer Championship in April and the Laramie Soccer Association Summer championship (co-ed league). We also participated in the Laramie Volleyball League (team Harvest Christian Church) and finished in third place in May. Congratulations!!

◊ Matt Stratton, Xiaohui Yang and Heng Ma finished 1-2-3 in the 2008 Stanley Cup NHL hockey pool.

♦ Dr. Ren received appointment as the Editor for “Clin Exp. Pharmacol. Physiol” and editorial board for “Journal of Cardiometabolic Syndrome”.

◊ Bonnie won the College of Health Sciences Outstanding Staff Award of 2008, Congratulations!

♦ Dr. Li received appointment as Adjunct Professor of Shihezi University and Visiting Professor of Lanzhou University to build up the international collaboration in the future.

◊ Dr. Li met Professor Guangsheng Ding, Honorary Editor-in-Chief, and Dr. Minsu Wu, Editor-in-Chief, of Acta Pharmacologia Sinica (APS), in Shanghai, to discuss the contributions from C-CRAM to APS in the future.

♦ Dr. Du received Young Scientist Award, Western Section American Society of Animal Science, 2008.

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